

**From:** [Ribordy, Michael](#)  
**To:** [Maguire, Andrew](#)  
**Cc:** [Behnke, Kristina](#)  
**Subject:** RE: EPA RESPONDS TO CHEMICAL SPILL AT U.S. STEEL FACILITY IN PORTAGE, IND.  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 12, 2017 8:47:23 AM

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I talked to Kristina and she will try to get the website current so it will be easier to update after your 9 meeting. They have access to the school at USS Lead so feel free to tap into Kristina if needed.

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**From:** Maguire, Andrew  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 12, 2017 8:45 AM  
**To:** Borries, Samuel  
**Cc:** Brown, Jaime ; Ribordy, Michael ; Mendez, Thomas ; El-Zein, Jason  
**Subject:** Re: EPA RESPONDS TO CHEMICAL SPILL AT U.S. STEEL FACILITY IN PORTAGE, IND.  
We have a 9 o'clock meeting this morning and will have an update for you by 1030. We did start a webpage and will update it throughout the day.  
<http://response.epa.gov/USSteelHexavalentChrome>

Sent from my iPhone

On Apr 12, 2017, at 08:24, Borries, Samuel <[borries.samuel@epa.gov](mailto:borries.samuel@epa.gov)> wrote:

Mike and Jaime,  
Please work with Andy and Tom to get an update for Jeff and Eileen this morning.  
Thanks.

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**From:** Kelley, Jeff  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 12, 2017 8:14 AM  
**To:** Deamer, Eileen <[deamer.eileen@epa.gov](mailto:deamer.eileen@epa.gov)>; Borries, Samuel <[borries.samuel@epa.gov](mailto:borries.samuel@epa.gov)>; El-Zein, Jason <[el-zein.jason@epa.gov](mailto:el-zein.jason@epa.gov)>  
**Cc:** Bassler, Rachel <[Bassler.Rachel@epa.gov](mailto:Bassler.Rachel@epa.gov)>; Rowan, Anne <[rowan.anne@epa.gov](mailto:rowan.anne@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: EPA RESPONDS TO CHEMICAL SPILL AT U.S. STEEL FACILITY IN PORTAGE, IND.  
We'll develop an update for the press/public this morning and can use that for congressional.  
Jason/Sam, do we know if Andy has created a page on [response.epa.gov](http://response.epa.gov)? Would be useful to have a place we can send people for information. We can help on the web page.

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**Jeff Kelley**  
*Director, Office of External Communications*  
*U.S. EPA Region 5*  
*ph: 312-353-1159*

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**From:** Deamer, Eileen  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 12, 2017 8:10 AM  
**To:** Borries, Samuel <[borries.samuel@epa.gov](mailto:borries.samuel@epa.gov)>; El-Zein, Jason <[el-zein.jason@epa.gov](mailto:el-zein.jason@epa.gov)>  
**Cc:** Kelley, Jeff <[kelley.jeff@epa.gov](mailto:kelley.jeff@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** FW: EPA RESPONDS TO CHEMICAL SPILL AT U.S. STEEL FACILITY IN PORTAGE,

IND.

Please provide me an update when it's appropriate so I can update the interested congressional offices.

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**From:** Terp, Andrew (Young) [[mailto:Andrew\\_Terp@young.senate.gov](mailto:Andrew_Terp@young.senate.gov)]

**Sent:** Wednesday, April 12, 2017 8:06 AM

**To:** Deamer, Eileen <[deamer.eileen@epa.gov](mailto:deamer.eileen@epa.gov)>

**Subject:** RE: EPA RESPONDS TO CHEMICAL SPILL AT U.S. STEEL FACILITY IN PORTAGE, IND.

Eileen –

Thanks for the update yesterday evening. Please keep our office apprised as you learn more about this incident.

Have a great Wednesday morning.

Best,

Andrew

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Andrew J. Terp

Legislative Assistant

Senator Todd Young (IN)

400 Russell Senate Office Building

(202) 224-5623

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**From:** Deamer, Eileen [<mailto:deamer.eileen@epa.gov>]

**Sent:** Tuesday, April 11, 2017 8:26 PM

**To:** Kitchen, Chase (Donnelly) <[Chase\\_Kitchen@donnelly.senate.gov](mailto:Chase_Kitchen@donnelly.senate.gov)>; Terp, Andrew (Young) <[Andrew\\_Terp@young.senate.gov](mailto:Andrew_Terp@young.senate.gov)>; Johnson, Elizabeth (Visclosky) <[elizabeth.johnson@mail.house.gov](mailto:elizabeth.johnson@mail.house.gov)>; [mark.lopez@mail.house.gov](mailto:mark.lopez@mail.house.gov); Varga, Lauren (Donnelly) <[Lauren\\_Varga@donnelly.senate.gov](mailto:Lauren_Varga@donnelly.senate.gov)>

**Cc:** Beckmann, Ronna Erin <[beckmann.ronna@epa.gov](mailto:beckmann.ronna@epa.gov)>; Fortin, Denise <[Fortin.Denise@epa.gov](mailto:Fortin.Denise@epa.gov)>

**Subject:** EPA RESPONDS TO CHEMICAL SPILL AT U.S. STEEL FACILITY IN PORTAGE, IND.  
Hello -

I wanted to make sure you were aware that EPA is responding to a chemical spill at the U.S. Steel facility in Portage, Ind. This morning, the company reported a wastewater discharge to the Burns Waterway, within 100 yards of Lake Michigan. EPA has determined that the wastewater contains hexavalent chromium, a toxic byproduct of industrial processes. EPA is working with the company to contain the spill. At this time, it's not known how much has been spilled.

EPA is monitoring the waterway and Lake Michigan. This sampling does not show that the hexavalent chromium has reached Lake Michigan. EPA will continue to monitor and will provide updates as needed.

EPA is working closely with U.S. Steel and federal, state and local partners. In an abundance of caution, the nearest municipal water source, the Indiana American Water in Ogden Dunes, has shut down its water intake and will use reserve water. Also, the National Park Service has temporarily closed two beaches at Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore (see <https://www.nps.gov/indu/index.htm> for more information.)

Thank you,

Eileen Deamer

(312) 886-1728